



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Information Application of:

Thomson

Serial No.: 10/030,976

Filed: May 10, 2002

For: PRIMER CASING AND METHOD  
OF CHARGING A BLASTHOLE

: Confirmation No.: 6339

: Group Art Unit: 3641

: Examiner: Nelson, Peter A.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 EL 982 115 537 US US	
On <u>9/30/03</u>	<u>L Murray</u> Lea Murray

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Further to the Information Disclosure Statement filed May 15, 2003, the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the additional references, copies enclosed, which may qualify as prior art. For the Examiner's Convenience, the references are listed on the attached Patent and Trademark Office Form PTO-1449.

Applicants note that the two references cited in the accompanying Form 1449 are not in the English language. Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.98, a concise explanation of the relevance is provided.

Reference EP 0564773 is a European patent application in the German language titled "Expandable cap for use as anti-theft device for an explosive cartridge insertable into wells." This reference was cited by the Australian patent office in an International-Type Search Report for priority application AU PQ1533/99, which is believed to demonstrate its relevance. Enclosed is an English abstract, indicating that the reference relates to the field of explosive cartridges. Additional details found in the drawings of the reference may be considered relevant.

Reference DE 4136096 is a German patent application in the German language titled "Device for placing explosive charge on bottom of vertical borehole, etc. - includes casing with bottom end connected to blasting cartridge with outer dia. smaller than bore of drill pipe, etc." Applicants note that this reference was disclosed on pages 2 and 3 within reference WO 9601408, previously submitted in the Information Disclosure Statement of May 15, 2003. For the convenience of the Examiner, Applicants enclose an excerpt from reference WO 9601408. Enclosed also is an English abstract, indicating that the reference relates to the field of blasting cartridges. Additional details found in the drawings of the reference may be considered relevant.

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This information is cited in a spirit of forthrightness and cooperation to enable the applicants to obtain that measure of protection for the invention to which there is entitlement. However, no representation is made that the listed art actually qualifies as prior art under the patent statute, and the mere use of PTO-1449 is not an admission that all listed references are prior art. No representation is made that applicants know of the best art.

It is believed this submission does not require the payment of a fee. If this is incorrect, please deduct the appropriate fee from deposit account 07-1969.

Respectfully submitted,



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		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation Yes/No
		0 564 773 A1	10/13/93	EP			Abstract only
		41 36 096	12/17/92	DE			Abstract only

[illegible]

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
<p>*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</p>	